

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

At the outset, the Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy shown to their attorney during a telephone interview on May 24, 2011. The participants were Examiner Huaracha and Douglas Agopsowicz, Reg. No. 56,792. The following includes a summary of the substance of the interview. Agreement was reached that the amendments to the claims contained herein would likely place the application in condition for allowance.

During the interview, the Examiner and the Applicants' representative agreed that amending independent claim 23 to incorporate the features of claim 31, and amending independent claim 37 in a substantially similar fashion (i.e., to incorporate the features of claim 38), would likely place the application in condition for allowance, subject to further search and consideration. Also, the Examiner and the Applicants' representative agreed that amending independent claim 37 to include the feature of: "...a scheduling unit comprising a processor..." would overcome the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejections applied to claims 37-39 and 45.

Accordingly, independent claim 23 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 31, independent claim 37 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 38 and to include the additional language proposed by the Examiner to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejections, claim 32 has been amended to depend from claim 23, claims 34, 39, and 43-45 have been amended to correct minor grammatical mistakes and ensure proper antecedent support for each recited feature, and claims 31 and 38 have been cancelled.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/James E. Ledbetter/

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JEL/DEA/att

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